

Assembly Instructions for the Hot Air Balloon Pen Inlay Kit



This is a really fun kit to put together. In the bottom left corner of this sheet there's an image of all the pieces included in this kit. Check to make sure everything has been included. The woods used are Basswood (6 colors), Blue dyed curly maple, natural maple and blue dyed Box elder burl. In most cases, the small blue section between the balloon and the balloon basket has been pre-assembled and secured with a small bit of CA glue. If it hasn't been pre-assembled you can find it in the small baggie with the balloon basket pieces.

We'll start by inserting the 2 small maple squares (balloon baskets) into their recesses under the balloons. Position one piece and secure it with a small dot of CA glue. Then position the second basket in place and secure it with a small dot of CA glue. See Fig 1. Next we'll fit the purple and red balloon in place. Assemble the 2 pieces first and then fit it into the recess. Apply CA glue to all the seams. When assembling the large balloon we're going to slide the brass tube from the pen kit into the blue barrel to help align the 4 balloon pieces. Once all pieces are fit into the recess, wrap a couple of elastic bands around them to secure.



Fig.1

Now remove the brass tube and flood all the seams with thin CA glue. See Fig.2. Now add the small turquoise balloon and secure with a drop of thin CA glue. Last piece is the green grass piece. Align this piece with the blue assembly and hold tightly between your thumb and forefinger making sure they're perfectly lined up. When they are, apply thin CA glue around the seam to secure.



Fig.2

Once the glue has completely cured we're going to glue in the brass tube. Check the fit to see if you need to sand the inside of the barrel for the brass tube to fit smoothly. If you do, wrap a piece of sandpaper (100G-150G) around a small dowel and sand the inside until the brass tube fits smoothly.

Scuff up the brass tube with 100G sandpaper before gluing. I prefer 2-part epoxy to glue the brass tube in place. Never use polyurethane (Gorilla) glue with these inlay kits as the expansion while curing could seep through the glue joints of the inlay. Slide the brass tube just past the mountain on the right side. Once all glue has cured, sand the ends flush to the brass tube (don't use a barrel trimmer) and



mount on the lathe for turning and finishing. E-mail Ken at kallenshaan@cox.net with any questions about this or any of our laser cut inlay kits.


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